

DAILY BULLETIN

JANUARY 7, 2005

U.S. BUSINESSES CONTINUE TO OFFER SUPPORT IN TSUNAMI AFTERMATH

Indonesian, Indian, U.S. officials discuss response to crisis 1

NO ADVANTAGE IN DELAYING IRAQI ELECTION, COALITION CHIEF SAYS

Most of Iraq is already sufficiently secure for voting, Metz reports..... 3

U.S. COOPERATES WITH EUROPE TO COMBAT SEX TRAFFICKING

U.S. assistance in combating sex trafficking..... 4

NEW PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION WEB SITE LAUNCHED

Comprehensive site includes background information, facts, photo gallery 8

U.S. BUSINESSES CONTINUE TO OFFER SUPPORT IN TSUNAMI AFTERMATH

Indonesian, Indian, U.S. officials discuss response to crisis

By Anthony Kujawa and Kathryn McConnell
Washington File Staff Writers

Washington -- U.S. corporations continue to demonstrate their generosity by contributing cash and in-kind support to aid victims of the tsunami that battered Asia and East Africa December 26, 2004.

Companies also are helping their employees give to disaster relief funds, often matching their donations to the relief effort.

Speaking at a January 6 forum in Washington on the corporate response to the tsunami crisis, Global Business Dialogue Inc. (GBD), President R.K. Morris said corporations are doing a great deal to support relief efforts.

Citing contributions from GBD member companies such as The Procter & Gamble Co. (P&G), Johnson & Johnson (J&J) and United Parcel Service Inc. (UPS), Morris said private sector cash and in-kind support is critical to near-term relief and long-term recovery efforts.

Morris said P&G is providing \$1 million's worth of its PUR water purification sachets as well as \$500,000 in cash to partner organizations to deliver over 150 million liters of purified water to areas in the greatest need.

New Jersey-based J&J, he said, has made initial cash contribution of \$2 million to relief efforts and is distributing medical supplies throughout the region.

The world's largest package delivery company, UPS, based in Atlanta, has announced it will ship up to 1 million pounds of emergency relief supplies from Europe, Asia and the Americas via air, ship and ground to Asia, he said.

Also speaking at the forum, Vikram Misri of the Embassy of India said the government of India has not made a request for official bilateral assistance because the needs in neighboring countries are much greater than its own and India has the resources available domestically to handle relief and rehabilitation in its affected coastal and island areas.

Misri said India has "been touched and gratified by the love, the warmth, and the affection and the generosity that has been shown by the American people -- ordinary citizens, the government ... who have brought to this disaster a very human face."

The Embassy of Indonesia's deputy chief of mission, Harry Purwanto, discussed the challenges in reaching isolated areas and importance in coordinating humanitarian response to the catastrophe.

At the forum U.S. senior official for Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Lauren Moriarty said the U.S. government is "doing all that it can" to assist people affected by the tsunami. She said the United States is working with the United Nations and governments around the world for a comprehensive, coordinated international response.

The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) has been on the ground providing relief as well as the U.S. military, she said. Pentagon efforts, Moriarty said, have involved more the more than 13,000 people, 21 ships and 100 aircraft, including 48 helicopters.

In response to a question on U.S. government contributions to the relief effort, Moriarty said: "We are there with a lots of aid ... We are in a very big way helping deliver assistance right now. ... It's not just a commitment on paper. We are there and we are delivering.

U.S. Private Sector Responds to Crisis

Private-sector contributions are key to an effective,

comprehensive relief, recovery and reconstruction efforts. Examples of corporate giving come from across the United States.

The Dow Chemical Co. of Michigan said it will contribute \$5 million in aid funding, matches of employee contributions for relief, and products and funds for longer-term reconstruction efforts.

Stucco On Steel, based in Virginia, said it is donating \$2.5 million for building 5,000 low-cost, high-strength houses for homeless families. The company's new foundation created to help tsunami reconstruction also will provide training and other support to builders in the area.

General Mills Inc. of Minnesota said it is committing \$1 million to help nonprofit organizations with disaster relief, including matches of employee contributions.

Texas-based Kimberly-Clark Corp. said it will contribute \$1.5 million in a combination of direct support and in dollar-for dollar matching of employee contributions.

New Jersey-based Prudential Foundation, the grant-making organization of Prudential Financial Inc., said it will donate \$1 million and open a disaster-relief fund for employees, waiving an annual limit for its matching gifts program.

The Carnegie Corp. of New York and the New York Stock Exchange each have pledged \$1 million to tsunami relief.

Companies are targeting the major groups working in the area to receive their help, including the U.N. Children's Funds (UNICEF) and the Red Cross and group of organizations as well as local groups such as the National Relief Fund of India and The King of Thailand Foundation, according to news reports.

Celebrities are also contributing to the relief effort, including film stars Sandra Bullock, giving \$1 million, and Leonardo DiCaprio, who has pledged a "sizeable" amount, according to news reports. In 2000, DiCaprio filmed a movie on a Thailand island that has been devastated by the disaster.

Other performers will appear in and contribute to tsunami-related fund-raising concerts and television specials, including a January 15 telethon to be broadcast by NBC television, news reports say.

In a call for action to the business community to provide cash and in-kind support to the relief efforts, Morris recited a familiar proverb: "None of us are as smart as all of us. None of us are as effective as all of us."

For additional information, go to "U.S. Response to Tsunami and Earthquake in Asia" at: http://usinfo.state.gov/gi/global_issues/recovery.html

NO ADVANTAGE IN DELAYING IRAQI ELECTION, COALITION CHIEF SAYS

Most of Iraq is already sufficiently secure for voting, Metz reports

By Jacquelyn S. Porth
Washington File Security Staff Writer

Washington -- Each Iraqi ballot that is cast in the January 30 elections will be a vote against the insurgency that has sought to derail Iraq's movement toward democracy, says U.S. Army Lieutenant General Thomas Metz.

Metz, who is the commanding general of the Multi-National Corps in Iraq, says the insurgents are destined to fail because they have not coalesced into a popular movement. The only tool left in the insurgents' tool kit, he told reporters in Baghdad January 6, is inflicting brutal intimidation on those around them.

The general told questioning reporters there is no advantage in delaying elections in Iraq. Delaying the elections would be "the wrong thing to do" because it would allow the insurgents more time to carry out acts of intimidation and cruelty, he said. If a delay were mandated, he said, there might be an even greater chance of civil war.

Kidnapping, torture and murder have not popularized the insurgency, Metz said, and the insurgents have not been able to articulate a common strategy with any popular appeal. Part of the reason, according to his analysis, might be that there are so many varieties of insurgents: some are driven by ideology, for example; while others are only dropping in and out of the movement in an effort to feed their families.

The only clear goal of the insurgency, he said, seems to be squeezing as much publicity as possible out of each attack. Even though the enemy is prosecuting a cam-

paign of intimidation to try to promote a climate of fear in Iraq, he said, the desire for freedom is too strong now.

Metz's goal is a successful, prosperous, free Iraq that does not harbor terrorists. That Iraq will be a great example for the world that has been focused on the war against terrorism, he said.

With 21 days left before Iraq's elections, Metz said 15 of 18 Iraqi provinces are already sufficiently secure to allow voters to cast ballots. Within three weeks, he predicted that some problematic provinces would be in even better condition for voting.

With each passing day, Metz said, Iraq's capacity to handle security requirements increases. Iraq's security and police forces are becoming increasingly effective as U.S. and coalition forces mentor them, and, he said, the Iraqis will be even more successful as they mature in their new role. With every fight, Iraqi forces have done better, the commander said.

Iraqi rather than coalition forces will be securing the polling sites at the end of January, according to Metz. Coalition forces will be available to provide technical advice as needed, he said, or quick-reaction assistance if required. The U.S. role is to serve as a partner to a sovereign government, he said.

Metz says all Iraqi constituencies should vote in order that a constitution can be written. That act, in turn, will pave the way for a second round of elections in a year or so, he said, when Iraq will be even more secure.

Asked about the announced Sunni boycott of the upcoming elections, Metz said part of being a democracy means exercising the right to participate. He said he hopes the Sunnis will take part, but he said it is their right to choose not to do so.

On other security matters, Metz said more aggressive security patrols are under way in Baghdad because the capital seems to be the focus of insurgent operations.

Most of the approximately 70 daily attacks by insurgents all across Iraq have focused on coalition forces, Metz said in answer to a question from a reporter. But he also acknowledged that there has been an increasing focus on Iraqi security forces and on senior Iraqi civilian leaders such as the recent murder of the governor of Baghdad. He expressed his condolences for all the Iraqi civilians

and members of security and coalition forces who have died for the important cause of Iraqi freedom.

Metz said coalition operations are under way to pursue terrorists wherever they move now that their safe haven in Fallujah has been eliminated. Although there are no guarantees that every Iraqi can travel to the polling place in absolute safety on Election Day, he said, everything possible would be done in the coming weeks to create favorable conditions for voting.

U.S. COOPERATES WITH EUROPE TO COMBAT SEX TRAFFICKING

Fact Sheet: U.S. assistance in combating sex trafficking

The following fact sheet on U.S. efforts to combat sex trafficking was compiled from U.S. government sources:

U.S. Department of State
International Information Programs
Washington, D.C.
January 6, 2005

Fact Sheet: Sex Trafficking, the United States, and Europe

Every nation that fights human trafficking has a friend in the United States.

-- President Bush, July 16, 2004

Trafficking in human beings - often called modern day slavery - involves forced labor, most often of men, women and children in the commercial sex industry as prostitutes, but it can also involve forced labor in factories, fields, restaurants and homes. Traffickers prey on the ignorance or aspirations of people living in war-torn areas or in despair or poverty, often promising them a legitimate job opportunity. Once under the trafficker's control, the victim is then coerced or misled into work beyond legal protection.

Prostitution and related activities fuel the growth of trafficking by providing a facade behind which criminals can

exploit the vulnerable. It is a vicious myth that women and children who work as prostitutes have voluntarily chosen such a life for themselves. A 2003 study first published in the scientific Journal of Trauma Practice found that 89 percent of women in prostitution want to escape. And children are also trapped in prostitution - despite the fact that international covenants and protocols impose upon state parties an obligation to criminalize the commercial sexual exploitation of children. For more information on the link between prostitution and sex trafficking, see:

<http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/rls/38790.htm>

The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) estimates that 600,000-800,000 people are trafficked globally across international borders, while millions more are trafficked within countries. Trafficking provides organized crime with annual profits in the range of \$8-10 billion (Ashcroft, July 16, 2004).

DOJ estimated in June 2004 that 14,500-17,500 people were being trafficked into the United States annually:

3,500-5,500 from Europe and Eurasia
3,500-5,500 from Latin America
5,000-7,000 from East Asia and the Pacific
200-700 from Africa
200- 600 from South Asia
0- 200 from the Near East

Age, Sex and Type of Exploitation - All Regions (DOJ):

33 percent Women - forced or coerced commercial sex
23 percent Girls (under 18) - forced or coerced commercial sex
14 percent Women - other forms of exploitation
11 percent Girls (under 18) - other forms of exploitation
10 percent Boys (under 18) - forced or coerced commercial sex
6 percent Boys (under 18) - other forms of exploitation
3 percent Men - other forms of exploitation
1 percent Men - forced or coerced commercial sex

TRAFFICKING BY REGION

Region of origin:

43 percent East Asia and the Pacific
29 percent Europe and Eurasia
17 percent Africa

5 percent Western Hemisphere
 5 percent South Asia
 less than 1 percent Near East

Region of Destination:

40 percent East Asia and the Pacific
 36 percent Europe and Eurasia
 8 percent Near East
 6 percent Africa
 6 percent Western Hemisphere
 4 percent South Asia

What the United States is Doing to Combat Trafficking

The Trafficking in Persons Protocol:

In January 1999, the United States and Argentina proposed the first international protocol to require governments to criminalize trafficking in persons and to provide a framework for enhanced protection of, and assistance to, victims. The Trafficking in Persons Protocol, as it is called, entered into force in December 2003.

The Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA):

The first federal law aimed specifically at trafficking, TVPA was signed into law on October 28, 2000. TVPA sets harsh penalties for traffickers and allocates \$95 million to protect victims and penalize criminals. It requires the U.S. State Department to create annually the "Trafficking in Persons Report" and rate each country's efforts according to its government's efforts to combat trafficking. For a fact sheet on TVPA, see: http://www2.acf.hhs.gov/trafficking/about/TVPA_2000.html

Interagency Task Force:

In February 2002, pursuant to the TVPA, President George W. Bush established a Cabinet-level Interagency Task Force to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons. This Task Force is chaired by the Secretary of State and includes the Attorney General, the Secretary of Labor, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Director of Central Intelligence, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, and the Administrator of the U.S. Agency for International Development. The Task Force's responsibilities include coordination and implementation of the Administration's anti-trafficking activities.

The State Department's Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons:

The TVPA also created the State Department's Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, which is headed by Ambassador John R. Miller. This office supported more than 240 anti-trafficking programs in over 75 countries in fiscal year 2003. The types of assistance include the following: economic alternative programs for vulnerable groups; education programs; training for government officials and medical personnel; development or improvement of anti-trafficking laws; provision of equipment for law enforcement; establishment or renovation of shelters, crisis centers, or safe houses for victims; support for voluntary and humane return and reintegration assistance for victims; and support for psychological, legal, medical and counseling services for victims provided by NGOs, international organizations and governments.

International Support:

Since 2001, the United States has provided more than \$295 million to support anti-trafficking programs in more than 120 countries, according to the White House. Funding goes to governments and nongovernmental and international organizations to create specialized law enforcement units; train prosecutors and judges; strengthen anti-trafficking laws; provide emergency shelter and care for victims; offer voluntary repatriation assistance; make available long-term rehabilitation assistance and vocational training for victims; legal advocacy; psychological and medical assistance for victims; and launch information campaigns.

The PROTECT Act:

In April 2003, Congress passed and President Bush signed into law The PROTECT Act, which provides better tools for combating international sex tourism, commercial sexual exploitation of children, and the federal offenses of child abuse, child kidnapping and child torture. The PROTECT Act enables U.S. law enforcement to prosecute Americans who travel abroad and sexually abuse children.

President Bush addresses UN General Assembly:

In September 2003, President Bush underscored his commitment to fight trafficking in a speech to the General Assembly with a pledge of \$50 million to support the work of anti-trafficking organizations.

The Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act:

In December 2003, Congress passed and President Bush signed the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act strengthening the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000. The new legislation required better statistical monitoring; created a Special Watch List in the State Department's annual report; made convicting and sentencing traffickers as important as investigations when evaluating efforts of countries to combat trafficking; provided new tools for addressing destination countries that may not be doing anything about trafficking.

International Anti-trafficking Initiatives:

Under the leadership of the United States and Norway, NATO adopted a comprehensive plan to help combat worldwide trafficking in persons in Istanbul in June 2004. NATO personnel will support the efforts of authorities in host countries to combat trafficking while working with non-governmental organizations and anti-trafficking experts.

In addition, the United States:

- Vigorously enforces U.S. laws against all those who traffic in persons;
- Strives to raise awareness at home and abroad about human trafficking and how it can be eradicated;
- Identifies, protects, and assists victims exploited by traffickers;
- Reduces the vulnerability of individuals to trafficking through increased education, economic opportunity, and protection and promotion of human rights; and
- Employs diplomatic and foreign policy tools to encourage other nations, the United Nations and other multilateral institutions to work together to draft and enforce laws against trafficking and to hold accountable those engaged in it.

Cooperation with other countries has contributed to the prosecution around the world of nearly 8,000 perpetrators of trafficking crimes, resulting in over 2,800 convictions, according to the White House.

The United States does not deport victims. Under U.S. law victims have the right to stay in the United States, either through "continued presence," which allows victims

to stay pending an outcome of a trial, or through a "T" visa, which allows them to stay for up to three years and to thereafter apply for legal permanent status. T-visas and continued presence had been granted to 584 victims as of July 2004.

For a fact sheet on certification for victims of trafficking see:

http://www2.acf.hhs.gov/trafficking/about/cert_victims.html

The United States is currently the only country that offers the possibility of permanent residency to victims of trafficking.

The Trafficking in Persons Report (Tip)

The best source to begin exploring the Trafficking in Persons Report is the "Introduction" provided by the State Department's Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons. It is available at:

<http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2004/34021.htm>

This introduction details the human and social toll of trafficking, provides an overview of the causes and effective strategies for combating trafficking, and then describes the 2004 Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Report.

The Tiers

Tier 1: Countries whose governments fully comply with the Trafficking Victims Protection Act's minimum standards.

Tier 2: Countries whose governments do not fully comply with the act's minimum standards but are making significant efforts to bring themselves into compliance with those standards.

Tier 2 Watch List: Countries whose governments do not fully comply with the act's minimum standards but are making significant efforts to bring themselves into compliance with those standards, and:

- a. The absolute number of victims of severe forms of trafficking is very significant or is significantly increasing; or
- b. There is a failure to provide evidence of increasing efforts to combat severe forms of trafficking in persons from the previous year; or

c. The determination that a country is making significant efforts to bring themselves into compliance with minimum standards was based on commitments by the country to take additional future steps over the next year.

Tier 3: Countries whose governments do not fully comply with the minimum standards and are not making significant efforts to do so. Six European and Eurasian countries moved up from Tier 3 status in the 2004 Trafficking Report: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Turkey and Uzbekistan.

What is the United States Doing about Trafficking Specifically In Europe?

Brief descriptions of the 105 anti-trafficking programs involving the U.S. Department of State, USAID and/or the U.S. Department of Labor can be found at <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/rpt/34182.htm>

For example, the Department of State supports the Angel coalition, which assists NGOs in Russia and is building an international hotline to improve investigations of trafficking rings and to get more convictions in court.

The U.S. Department of Labor estimates that since 1995, more than 88,000 children have been rescued, rehabilitated and/or protected from trafficking through the \$125 million in international projects it has funded to combat trafficking. 22,000 of these children have been enrolled in education and training programs.

By working to increase compliance with labor laws, the Labor Department is helping to ensure that vulnerable immigrants are treated fairly. It is U.S. policy that all workers are entitled to full and fair compensation for their labor, regardless of their status.

In Eastern Europe, a Department of Labor-funded project created economic alternatives and job training for at-risk women in seven major cities. That project has provided skills training and job placement services to 20,000 women and young people of legal working age, the age group most vulnerable to traffickers.

A DOL-funded project in the Balkans and Ukraine is helping children and young people stay in school and learn marketable skills so they can find jobs when they reach the legal working age, thereby strengthening national policies in those two countries regarding trafficking.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is certifying trafficking victims so they may qualify for the same assistance available to refugees. HHS is also running a major public awareness campaign to alert victims in the U.S. - some of whom are from Europe or Eurasia - that help is available through the hotline number 888-3737-888.

The Department of Defense has implemented a zero-tolerance stand against any actions by Defense personnel that contribute to human trafficking and is instituting a service-wide mandatory training program.

The National Institute of Justice funded five trafficking studies that have been completed, including a study of trafficking in women from Ukraine.

For a list of active research grants by the National Institute of Justice and selected U.S. government agency research proposals with an international criminal justice component, see:
<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/international/grants.html>

Public service announcements in the United States have been issued in Spanish, Russian, and Polish to inform victims of their rights.

Following are more fact sheets on specific topics:

The Link Between Prostitution and Sex Trafficking
<http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/rls/38790.htm>

How Can I Recognize Trafficking Victims?
<http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/fs/34563.htm>

Best Shelter Practices by Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs):
<http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/30069.htm>

To End Child Sex Tourism: Fighting Trafficking in Persons
<http://www.state.gov/p/io/fs/2004/36409.htm>

Child Victims of Human Trafficking (including how to recognize) http://www2.acf.hhs.gov/trafficking/about/children_victims.html

Citizen Action: How Can I Help End Modern-Day Slavery?
<http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/fs/35011.htm>

Facts About Human Trafficking

<http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/rls/33109.htm>

Certification for victims of Trafficking (T visas, etc.)
http://www2.acf.hhs.gov/trafficking/about/cert_victims.html

Federal Efforts to Assist Victims of Trafficking
http://www2.acf.hhs.gov/trafficking/about/fed_assist.html

Victim Assistance
http://www2.acf.hhs.gov/trafficking/about/victim_assist.html

Operation Predator (targets sexual abusers of children)
<http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2004/07/20040707-10.html>

Presidential Initiatives to Combat Trafficking
<http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2004/07/20040716-3.html>

NEW PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION WEB SITE LAUNCHED

Comprehensive site includes background
information, facts, photo gallery

In preparation for President Bush's inauguration on January 20, the State Department's Bureau of International Information Programs has launched a new Web site dedicated to the role and significance of Inauguration Day.

The site includes a comprehensive backgrounder on the history of presidential inaugurations in the United States, facts and figures on inaugural traditions, and a photo gallery of past inaugurations.

Visit the new Web site at:

<http://usinfo.state.gov/special/inauguration.html>><http://usinfo.state.gov/special/inauguration.html>

Pleases Note: Most texts and transcript mentioned in the U.S. Mission Daily Bulletin are available via our homepage: **www.usmission.ch**

Select "Washington File" from the top menu bar.